GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1840
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2003
BUSINESS IN POST-WAR IRAQ
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government apprised itself of the business scenario in post-war Iraq;

(b) if so, the details of the possibilities for Indian companies and industry;

(c) whether some Indian companies and industries have already got some contracts; and

(d) if so, the nature of the business and foreign exchange likely to be earned by the Indian companies and industries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): It is expected that good opportunities will arise for Indian companies in post-war Iraq. According to one assessment, Indian industry will have opportunities for supply of essential items, in export of engineering goods and for construction sub-contracts. Indian companie may be preferred due to their long experience of such activities in Iraq.

(c) & (d): Those Indian companies who had secured contracts under `Oil for Food Programme` are in the processof fulfilment of their contractual obligations under the said Programme which has been extended upto 20.11.2003 by the United Nations. More business opportunities may emerge for Indian companies subsequently. Thus, the quantum of foreign exchange to be earned cannot be specified.